

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING KAYLA CRESS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Kayla Cress, a very special young woman who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Girl Scouts of America, Troop 5091, and in earning the most prestigious honor of the Gold Award.

The Girl Scout Gold Award is the highest achievement attainable in Girl Scouting. To earn the Gold Award, a Scout must complete five requirements, all of which promote community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills. The requirements include: 1. Earning four interest project patches, each of which requires seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service projects, and career exploration; 2. Earning the Career Exploration pin, which involves researching careers, writing resumes, and planning a career fair or trip; 3. Earning the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award, which requires a minimum of 30 hours of work using leadership skills; 4. Designing a self-development plan that requires assessment of ability to interact with others and prioritize values, participation for a minimum of 15 hours in a community service project, and development of a plan to promote Girl Scouting; and 5. Spending a minimum of 50 hours planning and implementing a Girl Scout Gold Award project that has a positive lasting impact on the community.

For her Gold Award project, Kayla did refurbishment work at the Burr Oaks Conservation Center.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Kayla Cress for her accomplishments with the Girl Scouts of America and for her efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of the Gold Award.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, domestic violence is not just an issue that affects women; it is an issue that affects us all. So many of our mothers, sisters, co-workers, colleagues and friends may be victims of domestic violence and you may never even know. The woman sitting next to you may be battered or abused, and she is keeping it a deep dark secret because she is embarrassed, ashamed, or afraid. We need to continue to work hard to bring the issue of domestic violence out of the closet. Silence will not fix the problem. We need programs that continue to bring the issue out in the open and let victims know that their

lives mean something! Let them know that there is no justification for abuse and that they do not have to live with it day after day. Victims need to know that there are places that they can go and people who can help. Victims need to know how to enact a plan so that they can flee their batterer and have resources available so that they are not forced to go back. It takes a tremendous amount of courage to flee an abuser, having the resources available to stay away should be the farthest thing from a victim's mind. That is why it is so important to have counseling services available helping with preparation.

I saw a flyer the other day entitled "10 Things Men Can Do to Prevent Men's Violence Against Women." Men need to understand that while most never abuse, there are factors that contribute to the cycle of violence and all of us need to do our part to end the cycle. We need to teach our sons how not to abuse and how not to contribute to it. We need to teach them that women must be treated with respect and dignity. Until men become actively involved in ending domestic violence, these cycles will never be broken.

TO COMMEND KANSAS CITY GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD RECIPIENTS

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Mr. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, the Girl Scouts program encourages strong values, leadership, responsibility, confidence, and friendship among young women. Programs in the Kansas City, Kansas, region have been thriving for years, empowering young women to develop to their full potential.

Girl Scouts enables young women to grow into strong citizens by teaching money and financial management, health and fitness, global awareness, and community service. As a result of the program, millions of Girl Scouts have been introduced to the arts, science, math, and technology.

On March 2, in my home state of Kansas, 21 Kansas City area Girl Scouts will be awarded the highest honor in Scouting, the Gold Award. These young women will be recognized for completion of five requirements: community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, and leadership skills.

In order to receive the Gold Award honor, these girls have accomplished several tasks. Every recipient has earned four project patches, each of which requires fulfillment of seven activities that center on skill building, technology, service, and career exploration. In addition, each girl has earned the Career Exploration pin, received for their work researching potential careers. The Gold Award recipients have also earned the Senior Girl Scout Leadership Award for completing at least 30 hours of work involving leadership skills. Finally, the young women have spent a minimum of 50

hours planning and implementing a Gold Award project that has a positive and lasting impact on the Kansas City community. I am proud that these 21 Gold Award recipients will be recognized, joining the 3,000 honored nationwide each year.

I commend the Girl Scouts program for their support, dedication, and commitment to American girls, and I applaud these 21 new Gold Award recipients on their achievement.

A listing of their names and hometown follows:

D'erin May, Bonner Springs.
Leanne Gray, Lansing.
Mackenzie Smith, Leavenworth.
Katie Brovont, Olathe
Jaime Lenninger, Shawnee Mission.
Jacquelynn Sullivan, Shawnee Mission.
Katie Wall, Shawnee Mission.
Kristen Keplinger, Shawnee Mission.
Dena Neuenschwander, Shawnee Mission.
Jennifer Jacobs, Shawnee Mission.
Jennifer Sherman, Shawnee Mission.
Phyllis Adebajo, Shawnee Mission.
Bridget Barton, Shawnee Mission.
Julie Wiseman, Shawnee Mission.
Laura Smith, Shawnee Mission.
Hilary Junk, Shawnee Mission.
Megan Campbell, Shawnee Mission.
Megan Stinemetz, Shawnee Mission.
Amy Sapenoff, Shawnee Mission.
Christine Thomson, Shawnee Mission.
Michelle Kentrup, Shawnee Mission.

BREAKING THE CYCLE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 5, 2003

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to an organization in my district that provides vital services to women and families that have been affected by domestic violence.

180 Turning Lives Around, formerly the Women's Center of Monmouth County provides a safe and supportive haven, where women and children can begin to heal.

180 Offices provide specialized counseling and programming for women affected by domestic violence and sexual assault. They staff outreach offices in towns that have the highest rates of domestic violence and sexual assaults in Monmouth County and some of the highest rates in the state, making these outreach programs vital to the communities they serve.

180 provides programming for women of color, including a group-counseling format called "Makeda" for Latina and African American women. In addition, 180 coordinates with local courts, police and prosecutor's offices to ensure that victims and family members receive access to appropriate services. These services include the domestic violence offender's intervention program "Alternatives to Abuse," victim's counseling, art therapy for children exposed to domestic violence and other community services.

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